

ASHBOURNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ASHBOURNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health, sanitary circumstances, vital statistics and various activities of the Health Department of your District for the year 1944.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, in Circular 49/45 the report is prepared on the lines indicated in Circular 2314, and must only be considered as an Interim Report. It only deals with essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year.

Statistics of the Area.

Area. 86,188 acres.

Estimated number of inhabited houses according to the rate book -

Rateable Value. £43,381. 3073.

Product of Penny Rate. £185.

Population. 10,930.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the year.

BIRTHS

<u>Live Births</u>	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	104	105	209.
Illegitimate.	4	3	7
	<u>108</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>216.</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 of the Civilian population - 19.9.

Average birth rate for England and Wales - 17.6.

Still Births.

Legitimate	4	5	9
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>

DEATHS.

70.	60.	130.
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Death rate per 1,000 of the Civilian population - 11.8

Average death rate for England and Wales - 11.6.

Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths) 86.

Number of persons dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth -

From puerperal Sepsis	0.
From other Maternal causes.	0.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year of age -

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate.	4	4	8
Illegitimate	1	2	3

Infant mortality rate under one year per 1,000 births - 50.9.
 Average infant mortality rate for England and Wales - 46

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES.

	Male	Female	Total.
Cancer (all ages)	10	8	18
Measles.	0	0	0
Heart Disease.	16	15	31.
Whooping Cough.	0	1	1.
Influenza	1	2	3
Diphtheria	0	0	0

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	Under 5.	Between 5 - 15.
Nos. of children who have completed course of immunisation during year	111	38
Approximate number of children in the area.	784	1862
Percentage immunised up to 31/12/44.	71%	68%

No cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE YEAR.

There have been no new developments or changes in the following services during the year:- Laboratory facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Water Supply.

There have been no extension of the water mains carried out by the Council during the year.

A scheme for supplying the Villages of Cubley, and Marston Montgomery was submitted to the Ministry of Health for sanction. A public inquiry was held and later permission granted to commence work on a trial boring for water. A Contract has been let for this work to commence early in the new year.

The Minister of Health also sanctioned a scheme for extending the Hartington Water Scheme to the Parwich Moor and the erecting of a 50,000 gallons reservoir. This scheme, which is to be carried out in conjunction with a farmer's scheme for laying mains and services, will provide a water supply to a moorland area of approximately 2,500 acres which in the past has been entirely dependent on catch water, and should materially assist in improving dairying condition on the various farms affected.

In parts of the Village of Doveridge, the pressure on the mains falls during the day period but recovers sufficiently at night to enable the householders to collect a reserve to carry them on. As the supply is taken from an adjoining Urban District Council who are also short, it has not yet been possible to remedy the trouble.

Complaints are still being received of the discoloured water and blocked services at Hartington owing to the high iron content in the water.

in the water.

In the Village where a piped supply is available at least 95% of the houses have a piped supply laid into the house.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No new works have been carried out in respect of Sewerage and Sewage disposal.

Refuse Collection.

During the year the following additional Parishes received fortnightly collections of house refuse.

Thorpe, Bradbourne, Shirley, Brailsford, Wyaston, Sudbury, Marston Montgomery, Boylestone, Clifton village, Osmaston and Yeldersley = 11 Parishes.

Inspections made 128
Portable ashbins provided 226.

Salvage. The following amounts of salvage have been collected and sold during the year.

	T.	Cwts.	Qr.
Waste Paper.	51.	0.	3.
Rags.	4	9	3
Scrap metals including			
tins.	4	11	3
Bones.	3	16	3
Rubber.	3	0	0
	<u>46.</u>	<u>19.</u>	<u>0.</u>

During May 1944 a very successful Book Recovery Drive took place, the total figure for this District being 65, 244 books, which were divided between the Fighting Forces, Central and Blitz Libraries and as waste paper for salvage purposes.

Housing.

Owing to the difficulties of obtaining labour and materials for repairs, routine housing inspections have been discontinued, and only nuisances are dealt with as reported. In this respect 765 inspections have been made.

Fourteen Cottages for Agricultural Workers under the Government Emergency Housing Programme were allocated to the District. These were all completed and tenanted by the end of the year.

Milk and Dairies.

During the year 118 inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies were made.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

None of the slaughter houses in the District are now used. Inspections of all butchers' shops and bakehouses have been made.

In the course of 78 inspections the following amounts of various types of food have been certified as unfit for food -

107 Eggs.
11½ lbs Beef.

The following is a Summary of other inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Rural Water Supplies and Sewage Facilities,
Detailed inspections of a large number of Parishes in the Southern District were carried out.
Inspections made. 765.

Public Health Acts	
Defective and obstructed drains.	
Inspections made.	71.
Nuisances abated.	20.
Water Supplies, wells, springs etc.,	
Inspections made.	56.
Housing Acts.	
General Housing Defects.	
Inspections made	89.
Defects abated.	39.
Infectious Diseases	
Premises inspected and	
disinfections carried out.	23.
Rodent Control.	
Inspections made.	97.
Infestations controlled.	29.
Dairies and Cowsheds.	
Inspections made.	118.
Bakehouses.	
Inspections made.	15.
Food Inspections.	63.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during the year are set out in the following tables -

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Small pox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	21.	19.	0.
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including para-typhoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia	2	1	0.
Pneumonia	7	3	5
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Measles.	54	0	0
Whooping Cough	73	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0
Malaria.	2	1	0.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.


Respiratory 4. Non-respiratory 2. Deaths 4.

I have the honour to be Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Hubert H. Smith

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1945.



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